



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,303	02/10/2004	Wei-Xin Jiang	16-584	1509

7590 09/23/2005

WATTS HOFFMANN CO., L.P.A.
Ste. 1750
1100 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

EXAMINER

FETSUGA, ROBERT M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3751

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

88

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/775,303	Applicant(s) JIANG, WEI-XIN	
	Examiner Robert M. Fetsuga	Art Unit 3751	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/12/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3751

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Page 3, line 26, "20" apparently should be --10--; and page 4, line 21, "64" apparently should be --66--.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the subject matter set forth in claim 3 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR

Art Unit: 3751

1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: Proper antecedent basis for the "cup assembly" set forth in claim 1, "fixed to" language set forth in claims 1 and 10, "removably joined" language (both occurrences) set forth in claims 1 and 20, "adapted to engage" language set forth in claim 9, "fixed to" language (ln. 3) set forth in claim 10, "first end" and "second end" set forth in claim 15, and "base assembly" and "fixed to" language set forth in claim 20, could not be found in the specification. Applicant is reminded claim terminology in mechanical cases should appear in the descriptive portion of the specification by reference to the drawing(s).

4. Claims 1, 4-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a tubular member threaded to a cup, does not reasonably provide enablement for a tubular member fixed to a cup. The

Art Unit: 3751

specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

5. Claims 1-5, 7, 9 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a rod threaded to a cup and tubular member, does not reasonably provide enablement for a rod removably joined to a cup and tubular member. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

6. Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a rod threaded to a cup and tubular member, does not reasonably provide enablement for a rod locked to a cup and tubular member. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

7. Claims 15 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in

Art Unit: 3751

the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 15 recites "said distal threaded section adapted to engage the threads of said connector second end".

Implementation of this subject matter is neither taught by the instant disclosure nor evident to the examiner. The distal threaded section 46 is of a significantly smaller diameter than the connector second end 62.

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 1 and 9-14, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tolbert.

The Tolbert reference discloses a plunger assembly comprising: a cup 2; a tubular member 3 (fixed to 2); a rod 3 (telescoping in the tubular member); and a handle 3 (telescoping in the rod), as claimed. Re claims 1 and 10, the rod is considered to be both "removably joined to" and "locked to" both the cup and tubular member in all positions. Re claims 11 and 12, Tolbert further discloses rotation of the rod (Fig. 2).

Art Unit: 3751

10. Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 20, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meyer.

The Meyer reference discloses a plunger assembly comprising: a cup 58; a tubular member 23,27,50; a rod 40; and a handle 47, as claimed. Re claims 1 and 10, the rod is considered to be both "removably joined to" and "locked to" both the cup and tubular member in all positions.

11. Applicant is referred to MPEP 714.02 and 608.01(o) in responding to this Office action.

12. Claims 6, 8 and 15-19 are free of the prior art of record.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert M. Fetsuga at telephone number 571/272-4886 who can be most easily reached Monday through Thursday.



Robert M. Fetsuga
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3751